



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/574,193	03/28/2006	Erkki I. Aaltonen	886A0022U1US	5890
29683 7590 12/12/2008 HARRINGTON & SMITH, PC 4 RESEARCH DRIVE, Suite 202 SHELTON, CT 06484-6212				
EXAMINER				
AJTBADE AKONAI OLUMIDE				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2617				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
12/12/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/574,193

Applicant(s)

AALTONEN ET AL.

Examiner

OLUMIDE T. AJIBADE AKONAI

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 August 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 16 and 19-39 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 16 and 19-39 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S5108)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8/11/2008
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see pages 10-17 of the remarks, filed August 11 2008, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1, 10, 19, and 24 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Kim et al 20030032389 and Stille WO 02/13488.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1-8, 10-13, 16, 19-20, 22-25, 27-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Kim et al 20030032389 (hereinafter Kim)** in view of **Stille WO 02/13488**.

Regarding **claim 1**, Kim discloses a method of operating a mobile terminal, the method comprising: accessing a service station (BS 211, see fig. 1, p.3, [0040]) via a bi-directional network (BS communicating with TV broadcasting system via a mobile communication system, see fig. 1, p.2, [0036]-[0037], p.3, [0046], p.4, [0053]); selecting an item on a service menu included in the service station and corresponding to a broadcast service (selecting a channel from the list of TV channels displayed when the MS is communicating with the TV broadcasting system via the mobile network, see p.4, [0054]-[0056], p.5, [0070]); receiving channel parameter data (see p.4, [0055]) relating to the corresponding broadcast service from the service station (MS receiving TV BCH, see p.4, [0054]-[0055]); using the received channel parameter data to open a communications channel (selecting and tuning to a particular TV channel, see p.4, [0054], p.5, [0070]-[0071]); and receiving broadcast data for the broadcast service through the communications channel (see p.4, [0056]-[0057], p.5, [0070]-[0071]).

Kim does not specifically disclose a mobile terminal accessing a service portal via a bi-directional network.

Stille however, discloses a mobile station (mobile terminal 10, see page 3, lines 1-2) accessing a service portal (WAP gateway/server 45, page 3, lines 11-13) via a bi-directional network (mobile terminal 10 accessing and selecting audio or video objects from WAP gateway/server 45, via PLMN network 77, see fig. 1, page 3, lines 1-16) and selecting an item on a service menu included in the service portal (see figs. 1 and 2, page 3, lines 1-16 and 19-24).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Stille, by having the wireless device MS of Kim select audio or video data to be received by the MS from a WAP server, into the system of Kim for the benefit of activating providing streaming data from a WAP gateway/server to a mobile station MS.

Regarding **claim 10**, Kim discloses a mobile terminal (MS, see fig. 5, p.3, [0047]) comprising: means (501, see fig. 5, p.3, [0048]) for accessing a service station (BS 211, see fig. 1, p.3, [0040]) via a bi-directional network (BS communicating with TV broadcasting system via a mobile communication system, and sending the EPG data from the broadcasting system 201 to cellular phones, see fig. 1, p.2, [0036]-[0037], [0039], p.3, [0039]-[0040], [0046], p.4, [0053]); means for allowing selection of an item on a service menu included in the service station and corresponding to a broadcast service (selecting a channel from the list of TV channels displayed when the MS is communicating with the TV broadcasting system via the mobile network, see p.4, [0054]-[0056], p.5, [0070]); means for receiving from the service station channel parameter data (see p.4, [0055]) relating to the broadcast service (MS receiving TV

BCH, see p.4, [0054]-[0055]); means for opening a communications channel using the channel parameter data (selecting and tuning to a particular TV channel, see fig. 5, p.3, [0049], p.4, [0054], p.5, [0070]-[0071]); and means for receiving broadcast data for the broadcast service through the communications channel (see p.4, [0056]-[0057], p.5, [0070]-[0071]), wherein the method is a method of operating a mobile phone (see p.2-3, [0039]-[0040], p.4, [0054]-[0056]).

Kim does not specifically disclose a mobile terminal accessing a service portal via a bi-directional network.

Stille however, discloses a mobile station (mobile terminal 10, see page 3, lines 1-2) accessing a service portal (WAP gateway/server 45, page 3, lines 11-13) via a bi-directional network (mobile terminal 10 accessing and selecting audio or video objects from WAP gateway/server 45, via PLMN network 77, see fig. 1, page 3, lines 1-16) and selecting an item on a service menu included in the service portal (see figs. 1 and 2, page 3, lines 1-16 and 19-24).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Stille, by having the wireless device MS of Kim select audio or video data to be received by the MS from a WAP server, into the system of Kim for the benefit of activating providing streaming data from a WAP gateway/server to a mobile station MS.

Regarding **claims 2, 11 and 32**, as applied to claims 1, 10 and 31, Kim further discloses wherein the channel parameter data includes an internet protocol address and/or a port number relating to the broadcast service (see p.4, [0055], p.5, [0070]).

Regarding **claims 3, 12 and 33**, as applied to claims 1, 10 and 31, Kim further discloses receiving service information data (TV channel listing, see p.4, [0056], p.5, [0070]).

Regarding **claims 4, 13 and 34**, as applied to claims 3, 12 and 33, Kim further discloses wherein the service information data comprises one or more of an IP/MAC notification table, a network information table, and a program mapping table (TV channel listing, see p.4, [0056], p.5, [0070]).

Regarding **claims 5 and 35**, as applied to claims 3 and 33, Kim further discloses receiving the service information data from the service portal (selecting a channel from the list of TV channels displayed when the MS is communicating with the TV broadcasting system via the mobile network, the TV channel list received from the TV broadcasting system, see p.4, [0054]-[0056], p.5, [0070]).

Regarding **claim 6** as applied to claim 3, Kim further discloses receiving the service information data over a broadcast network (see fig. 1, p.4, [0054]-[0056], p.5, [0070]).

Regarding **claims 7, 16 and 37** as applied to claims 1, 10 and 31, Kim as modified by Stille disclose the claimed limitations. Stille further discloses receiving data (audio or video objects, see fig. 1, page 3, line 13) from a service portal (45, see figs. 1-2, page 3, line 14) identifying an application, and in response, opening the application in the mobile terminal (see figs. 1-2, page 3, lines 10-24, page 4-20).

Regarding **claim 8 and 38** as applied to claims 1 and 31, Kim as modified by Stille disclose the claimed limitations. Stille further discloses wherein the service

portal is a wireless application protocol service (see figs. 1-2, page 3, lines 10-24, page 4-20).

Regarding **claims 23 and 28**, as applied to claims 19 and 24, Kim as modified by Stille disclose the claimed limitations. Stille further discloses wherein the service portal is arranged to transmit data identifying an application for consuming the broadcast service (see figs. 1-2, page 3, lines 10-24, page 4-20).

Regarding **claim 19**, Kim discloses a method comprising: storing data relating to channel parameters of one or more broadcast services (TV broadcasting system storing EPG that contains a menu of TV BCH, see p.2, [0033], [0036], p.5, [0070]); providing one or more selectable items on a service menu (presenting list of TV channels, see p.2, [0036], [0070]), each item relating to a broadcast service (see p.2, [0036], [0070]); and in response to the selection of an item from a remote terminal (selecting and tuning to a particular TV channel, see fig. 5, p.3, [0049], p.4, [0054], p.5, [0070]-[0071]), sending channel parameter data relating to the corresponding broadcast service to the remote terminal (see p.4, [0056]-[0057], p.5, [0070]-[0071]), wherein the method is a method of operating a service portal (see p.4, [0056]-[0057], p.5, [0070]-[0071]).

Kim does not specifically disclose wherein the method is a method of operating a service portal.

Stille however, discloses a method of operating a service portal, wherein a mobile station (mobile terminal 10, see page 3, lines 1-2) accessing a service portal (WAP gateway/server 45, page 3, lines 11-13) via a bi-directional network and wherein the service portal provides to the mobile station one or more selectable items on a

service menu (mobile terminal 10 accessing and selecting audio or video objects provided by the WAP gateway/server 45, via PLMN network 77, see fig. 1, page 3, lines 1-16) and selecting an item on a service menu included in the service portal (see figs. 1 and 2, page 3, lines 1-16 and 19-24).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Stille, by having the wireless device MS of Kim select audio or video data to be received by the MS from a WAP server, into the system of Kim for the benefit of activating providing streaming data from a WAP gateway/server to a mobile station MS.

Regarding **claim 24**, Kim discloses an apparatus (BS 211, see fig. 1, p.3, [0040]), the apparatus being configured to: to store data relating to channel parameters (see p.3, [0044], [0046]-[0047]) of one or more broadcast services (TV broadcasting system storing EPG that contains a menu of TV BCH, see p.2, [0033], [0036], p.5, [0070]); to provide one or more selectable items on a service menu, each item relating to a broadcast service (presenting list of TV channels, see p.2, [0036], [0070]); and to be responsive to the selection of an item by a remote terminal to send channel parameter data relating to the corresponding broadcast service to the remote terminal (selecting and tuning to a particular TV channel, see fig. 5, p.3, [0049], p.4, [0054], p.5, [0070]-[0071]), wherein the apparatus is a service portal (TV broadcasting system 201, see fig. 1, p.2, [0034]).

Kim does not specifically disclose wherein the apparatus is a service portal.

Stille however, discloses a service portal (see figs. 1 and 2, page 3, lines 1-16 and 19-24), and a mobile station (mobile terminal 10, see page 3, lines 1-2) accessing the service portal (WAP gateway/server 45, page 3, lines 11-13) via a bi-directional network (mobile terminal 10 accessing and selecting audio or video objects from WAP gateway/server 45, via PLMN network 77, see fig. 1, page 3, lines 1-16) and selecting an item on a service menu included in the service portal (see figs. 1 and 2, page 3, lines 1-16 and 19-24).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Stille, by having the wireless device MS of Kim select audio or video data to be received by the MS from a WAP server, into the system of Kim for the benefit of activating providing streaming data from a WAP gateway/server to a mobile station MS.

Regarding **claims 20 and 25** as applied to claims 19 and 24, Kim further discloses recording the number of occasions of each item being selected (see p.5, [0069]-[0071]).

Regarding **claims 22 and 27** as applied to claims 19 and 24, Kim further discloses determining whether the terminal is capable of consuming and/or is permitted to access the broadcast service relating to the selected item (see p.5, [0069]-[0071]), and in response to a negative determination, providing a service menu listing one or more appropriate services (see p.5, [0069]-[0071]).

Regarding **claim 29**, Kim discloses a system comprising a service station (TV broadcasting system 201, see fig. 1, p.2, [0034]) accessible via a bi-directional network

by a mobile terminal (BS communicating with TV broadcasting system via a mobile communication system, see fig. 1, p.2, [0036]-[0037], p.3, [0046], p.4, [0053]), the service station being arranged to provide a service menu comprising one or more items each corresponding to a broadcast service (presenting list of TV channels, see p.2, [0036], [0070]); the mobile terminal being arranged for allowing selection of one of the items (selecting and tuning to a particular TV channel, see fig. 5, p.3, [0049], p.4, [0054], p.5, [0070]-[0071]); the service station being responsive to an item selection to send to the mobile terminal channel parameter information relating to the corresponding broadcast service (selecting and tuning to a particular TV channel, see fig. 5, p.3, [0049], p.4, [0054], p.5, [0070]-[0071]); the mobile terminal being arranged to use the channel parameter information (see p.4, [0055]) to open a communications channel, and to receive broadcast data for the broadcast service through the communications channel (selecting a channel from the list of TV channels displayed when the MS is communicating with the TV broadcasting system via the mobile network and using the selected TV channel to receiving TV broadcasting, see p.4, [0054]-[0056], p.5, [0070]-[0071]).

Kim does not specifically disclose that the system comprises a service portal.

Stille however, discloses, in a system, a mobile station (mobile terminal 10, see page 3, lines 1-2) accessing a service portal (WAP gateway/server 45, page 3, lines 11-13) via a bi-directional network (mobile terminal 10 accessing and selecting audio or video objects from WAP gateway/server 45, via PLMN network 77, see fig. 1,

page 3, lines 1-16) and selecting an item on a service menu included in the service portal (see figs. 1 and 2, page 3, lines 1-16 and 19-24).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Stille, by having the wireless device MS of Kim select audio or video data to be received by the MS from a WAP server, into the system of Kim for the benefit of activating providing streaming data from a WAP gateway/server to a mobile station MS.

Regarding **claim 30**, Kim discloses a method of operating a system comprising a service station (BS 211, see fig. 1, p.3, [0040]) and a mobile terminal (MS, see fig. 5, p.3, [0047]), the method comprising: accessing the service station from the mobile terminal via a bi-directional network (BS communicating with TV broadcasting system via a mobile communication system, see fig. 1, p.2, [0036]-[0037], p.3, [0046], p.4, [0053]); providing a service menu comprising one or more items each corresponding to a broadcast service (presenting list of TV channels, see p.2, [0036], [0070]); using the mobile terminal to select one of the items (selecting and tuning to a particular TV channel, see fig. 5, p.3, [0049], p.4, [0054], p.5, [0070]-[0071]); sending from the service station to the mobile terminal channel parameter information relating to the broadcast service (see p.4, [0055]); at the mobile terminal, using the received channel parameter information to open a communications channel; and at the mobile terminal, receiving broadcast data for the broadcast service through the communications channel (selecting a channel from the list of TV channels displayed when the MS is communicating with the TV broadcasting system via the mobile network and using the

selected TV channel to receiving TV broadcasting, see p.4, [0054]-[0056], p.5, [0070]-[0071]).

Kim does not specifically disclose that the system comprises a service portal.

Stille however, discloses, in a system comprising a service portal a method of operating a service portal, wherein a mobile station (mobile terminal 10, see page 3, lines 1-2) accessing a service portal (WAP gateway/server 45, page 3, lines 11-13) via a bi-directional network and wherein the service portal provides to the mobile station one or more selectable items on a service menu (mobile terminal 10 accessing and selecting audio or video objects provided by the WAP gateway/server 45, via PLMN network 77, see fig. 1, page 3, lines 1-16) and selecting an item on a service menu included in the service portal (see figs. 1 and 2, page 3, lines 1-16 and 19-24).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Stille, by having the wireless device MS of Kim select audio or video data to be received by the MS from a WAP server, into the system of Kim for the benefit of activating providing streaming data from a WAP gateway/server to a mobile station MS.

Regarding **claim 31**, Kim discloses an apparatus configured: to access a service station (BS 211, see fig. 1, p.3, [0040]) via a bi-directional network (BS communicating with TV broadcasting system via a mobile communication system, and sending the EPG data from the broadcasting system 201 to cellular phones, see fig. 1, p.2, [0036]-[0037], [0039], p.3, [0039]-[0040], [0046], p.4, [0053]); to allow selection of an item on a service

menu included in the service station and corresponding to a broadcast service (selecting a channel from the list of TV channels displayed when the MS is communicating with the TV broadcasting system via the mobile network, see p.4, [0054]-[0056], p.5, [0070]); to receive from the service station channel parameter data relating to the broadcast service (see p.4, [0055]); to open a communications channel using the channel parameter data (selecting and tuning to a particular TV channel, see p.4, [0054], p.5, [0070]-[0071]); and to receive broadcast data for the broadcast service through the communications channel (see p.4, [0056]-[0057], p.5, [0070]-[0071]); wherein the apparatus is a mobile terminal (MS, see fig. 5, p.3, [0047]).

Kim does not specifically disclose a mobile terminal accessing a service portal via a bi-directional network.

Stille however, discloses a mobile station (mobile terminal 10, see page 3, lines 1-2) accessing a service portal (WAP gateway/server 45, page 3, lines 11-13) via a bi-directional network (mobile terminal 10 accessing and selecting audio or video objects from WAP gateway/server 45, via PLMN network 77, see fig. 1, page 3, lines 1-16) and selecting an item on a service menu included in the service portal (see figs. 1 and 2, page 3, lines 1-16 and 19-24).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Stille, by having the wireless device MS of Kim select audio or video data to be received by the MS from a WAP server, into the system of Kim for the benefit of activating providing streaming data from a WAP gateway/server to a mobile station MS.

Regarding **claim 36** as applied to claim 31, Kim further discloses receiving the service information data over a broadcast network (see fig. 1, p.4, [0054]-[0056], p.5, [0070]).

4. Claims **9 and 39** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Kim et al 20030032389 (hereinafter Kim)** in view of **Stille WO 02/13488** as applied to claims 1 and 31 above, and further in view of **Rebhan et al WO 99/33076 (hereinafter Rebhan)**.

Regarding **claims 9 and 39** as applied to claims 1 and 31, Kim as modified by Stille discloses the claimed limitation except sending data identifying a subscriber, the mobile terminal and/or terminal capabilities to the service portal.

In the same field of endeavor, Rebhan discloses sending data (transport stream, see page 18, lines 4-29, page 19, lines 14-17) identifying a subscriber, the mobile terminal and/or terminal capabilities to the service portal (transmitting transport stream to an information transfer point, see fig. 2, page 22, lines 24-33).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Rebhan, by sending information from the mobile device to the DVB broadcast system, into the system of Kim as modified by Stille for the benefit of using the information transmitted to the DVB broadcast system to locate the mobile station.

5. Claims 21 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Kim et al 20030032389 (hereinafter Kim)** in view of **Stille WO 02/13488** as applied to claims 19 and 24 above, and further in view of **Wang 20040203630**.

Regarding **claims 21 and 26** as applied to claims 19 and 24, Kim as modified by Stille discloses the claimed limitation except determining which services the terminal is capable of consuming and/or is permitted to access (determining sports related subject matter associated with the location of a mobile terminal 106, see p.4, [0040]-[0041]), and providing on the service menu only items relating to the appropriate services (providing a EPG information associated with local sports based on the location of mobile terminal 106, see p.4, [0040]-[0041]).

In a similar field of endeavor, Wang discloses determining which services the terminal is capable of consuming and/or is permitted to access, and providing on the service menu only items relating to the appropriate services.

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Wang, by determining a location of a mobile terminal and sending location based EPG information containing a list of channels accessible to the mobile terminal, with the system of Kim as modified by Stille for the benefit of providing personalized information mobile terminals.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to OLUMIDE T. AJIBADE AKONAI whose telephone number is (571)272-6496. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8.30p-5p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on 571-272-7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

OA

/Charles N. Appiah/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617